

NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

**RONALD J. TENPAS
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**

Nine Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208, Telephone (618) 628-3700

For Immediate Release

May 10, 2005

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on May 3, 2005, **RUBEN ARROYO, a/k/a “Camel”**, age 28, of Chicago, Illinois, **LAURA BERBER**, age 29, of Chicago, Illinois, **RICHARD D. WILLETT, a/k/a “Country”**, age 25, of Murphysboro, Illinois, **JASON R. MYERS, a/k/a “J”**, age 25 of Mt. Vernon, Illinois, and **CALEN D. McCOY, a/k/a “KK”**, age 19, of Mt. Vernon, Illinois, were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury sitting in Benton, Illinois, in a thirteen-count Superseding Indictment.

Count 1 of the Superseding Indictment charges that from in or about July 2004, to on or about April 20, 2005, in Jefferson County, Illinois, within the Southern District of Illinois, ARROYO, BERBER, WILLETT, MYERS, and McCOY conspired with each other and with others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, to knowingly and intentionally distribute 50 grams or more of a mixture and substance containing cocaine base, in the form commonly called “crack cocaine,” 5 kilograms or more of a mixture and substance containing cocaine, and 500 grams or more of a mixture and substance containing methamphetamine, Schedule II Controlled Substances, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A); all in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846.

Count 2 charges that on or about October 1, 2004, in Williamson County, ARROYO distributed cocaine in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(C).

Count 3 charges that on or about October 29, 2004, in Williamson County, ARROYO distributed cocaine in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(C).

Count 4 charges that on or about November 23, 2004, in Williamson County, ARROYO distributed 50 grams or more of crack cocaine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A).

Count 5 charges that on or about January 21, 2005, in Williamson County, ARROYO distributed cocaine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(C).

Count 6 charges that on or about March 23, 2005, in Williamson County, ARROYO distributed 50 grams or more of methamphetamine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(B).

Count 7 charges that on or about April 20, 2005, in Jefferson County, BERBER possessed with the intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A).

Count 8 charges that on or about April 20, 2005, in Jefferson County, BERBER possessed with the intent to distribute 500 grams or more of methamphetamine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A).

Count 9 charges that on or about January 6, 2005, in Washington County, WILLETT distributed cocaine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(C).

Count 10 charges that on or about December 16, 2004, at approximately 11:50 a.m., in Jefferson County, MYERS distributed crack cocaine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(C).

Count 11 charges that on or about December 16, 2004, at approximately 2:45 p.m., in Jefferson County, MYERS distributed crack cocaine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(C).

Count 12 charges that on or about December 27, 2004, in Jefferson County, McCOY distributed crack cocaine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(C).

Count 13 charges that on or about January 21, 2005, in Jefferson County, McCOY distributed crack cocaine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(C).

Counts 1, 4, 7, and 8 each carry a penalty of between 10 years' and life imprisonment, a fine of up to \$4,000,000, and a term of at least 5 years supervised release.

Counts 2, 3, 5, and 9-13 each carry a penalty of up to 20 years' imprisonment, a fine of up to \$1,000,000, and a term of at least 3 years supervised release.

Count 6 carries a penalty of between 5-40 years' imprisonment, a fine of up to \$2,000,000, and a term of at least 4 years supervised release.

An indictment is a formal charge against a defendant. Under the law, a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proved guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of a jury.

This case is being prosecuted as part of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF). Evidence in this investigation was obtained in an investigation conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Illinois State Police, the Joint Narcotics Unit of the Mt. Vernon Police Department and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, the Jackson County Sheriff's Department, the Carbondale Police Department, and other state and local law enforcement authorities.

In addition, the Jefferson County States Attorney's Office has assisted throughout the investigation.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys George Norwood and Amanda A. Robertson.